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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Peter BAETS et al.

Group Art Unit: 1753

Application No.: 10/693,922

Examiner: A. Phasge

Filed: October 28, 2003

Docket No.: 117622

For: METHOD OF SEPARATING MULTIVALENT IONS AND LACTATE IONS FROM  
A FERMENTATION BROTH

**STATUS INQUIRY LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please telephone our firm's Patent Application Filing Department at 703-836-6400 with the status of the above-identified patent application, including an indication as to when the next communication can be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

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WPB:JOC/dmr

Date: April 26, 2005

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